

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

Confirmation No. 1801

Jurgen Althammer

Date: December 22, 2006

International Appln. No.: PCT/EP04/03924

Group Art Unit: --

International Filing Date: April 14, 2004

Examiner: --

U.S. Serial No.: 10/553,150

For: AUTOMATIC COUPLING DEVICE

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**VIA EFS WEB**

Mail Stop Missing Parts

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION AND FEE FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.17, 1.136(a) AND 35 USC 41(a)8

Sir:

Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) the Commissioner for Patents to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by one month. Credit card payment in the amount of \$120.00 is submitted via EFS-WEB for the petition fee in accordance with 37 CFR 1.17 computed as:

  √   Response within first month  
  √   not small entity (\$120)        small entity (\$60)

You are authorized to charge to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700 any additional amounts owing.

If this petition is inadequate to avoid abandonment, the Assistant Commissioner for Patents is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), to extend the time by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. §1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING  
SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY  
THROUGH THE PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE EFS FILING  
SYSTEM ON DECEMBER 22, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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RCF:mjb